

CONGRATULATING JASMINE
EVERS OF THE EUGENE EAGLES

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jasmine Evers of the Eugene Eagles for her first-place finish in the Discus Event at the 2018 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championship.

Jasmine and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Jasmine Evers for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RE-
TIRED MISSISSIPPI FIRST JUDI-
CIAL DISTRICT CHANCERY
JUDGE CHARLES D. THOMAS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of one of Mississippi's most devoted citizens and public servants, retired Chancery Judge Charles D. Thomas. Judge Thomas passed away on Thursday, April 19, 2018. Judge Thomas was born on August 28, 1936, in Collins, Mississippi. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. William Otis Thomas, Sr.

Upon graduation from high school, Judge Thomas attended school at Marion Institute in Alabama. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi School of Law. Following graduation, Judge Thomas began a distinguished career practicing law at the Doty and Thomas Law Firm in Pontotoc, Mississippi. Judge Thomas was well-known for his skills as an attorney which served him well when he entered into public service as the First Judicial District of Mississippi Chancery Court Judge in 1993. Governor Kirk Fordice appointed Judge Thomas to fill the remainder of the term that was vacated by First Judicial District Chancery Judge Jim Roberts.

Bill Benson, Lee County Chancery Court administrator, said that Judge Thomas was a good judge who was known for being fair. "Judge Thomas was a fair judge with rulings that were on point," Benson said. "He was well in command of his courtroom. You had no doubt who was in charge."

Judge Thomas was also known to be a loyal friend. If you were his friend, he would go to any lengths to help you. Danny Weatherly, a devoted friend of Judge Thomas in Pontotoc, said he was a person who enjoyed conversations with people from all walks of life. "He was an intelligent, successful man and down to earth," Weatherly said. "He loved to fellowship with everyone—especially those who loved Ole Miss Athletics as much as he did."

Judge Thomas made friends in both the civilian and military worlds. He was a U.S. Army veteran. He served as a commander in the Pontotoc National Guard. Additionally, Judge

Thomas was a member of the Pontotoc American Legion Post #16 and the Pontotoc Masonic Lodge #81. Judge Thomas was an active member of the Pontotoc Rotary Club. He also served on the First National Bank Board of Directors.

In 2006, Judge Thomas retired from public office and spent much of his time studying his favorite book—the Holy Bible. He was known as a scholar of the Bible and enjoyed studying scripture in a variety of translations. His favorite Bible verse was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Judge Thomas is a man I am grateful to have known. His devotion to God, America and his fellow man will always be remembered. My thoughts and prayers are with Judge Thomas' family and friends.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENTIAL
AWARD WINNER DR. MARIA
DELORES CIMINI OF THE STATE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT
ALBANY

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate an extraordinary constituent, Dr. Maria Delores Cimini, who was recently awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring by the National Science Foundation.

As a leader and mentor, Dr. Cimini has helped countless individuals, especially women with disabilities, study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Drawing on her background as a psychologist and her own experience living with a visual disability, she has paved the way for many to follow their curiosity and realize their potential through STEM education.

Dr. Cimini currently works as an Adjunct Clinical Professor in the School of Education at the University at Albany, a position she's held for more than 20 years. She has also served as Assistant Director for Prevention and Program Evaluation of the University's Counseling Center for more than 10 years.

Our National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Education have both recognized Dr. Cimini with numerous awards for her extraordinary work. In 2012, President Obama recognized her in a White House ceremony as a "Champion of Change in STEM." Her repeated national recognition reflects her enduring work that has changed the lives of so many.

I am honored to congratulate Dr. Cimini for earning her most recent impressive distinction, and thank her for her selfless commitment to serving and educating others. We can all learn from her example.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, I was unavoidably detained and

was unable to make votes that evening. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for:

Roll Call 314, H.R. 5793—Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act; and Roll Call 315, H.R. 5749—Options Markets Stability Act.

CONGRATULATING HARRISON
FRAN OF THE RUSSELLVILLE IN-
DIANS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Harrison Fran of the Russellville Indians for his first-place finish in the 800m Run at the 2018 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championship.

Harrison and his coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Harrison Fran for a job well done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call votes No. 316, 317, 318, 319, and 320 on the evening of July 11, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 316; Yea on Roll Call No. 317; Yea on Roll Call No. 318; Yea on Roll Call No. 319; Nay on Roll Call No. 320; and Yea on Roll Call No. 321.

HONORING MENTIS, NAPA'S CEN-
TER FOR MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mentis, Napa's Center for Mental Health Services, for its 70 years of service to Napa County, California.

Mentis opened in 1948 as Family Service, an agency dedicated to assisting Napa's veterans and their families. In 2015, the organization moved to a new, expanded clinic and changed its name to Mentis, Napa's Center for Mental Health Services, to reflect the expansion of its work to accommodate residents of every age, stage, and income level.

The staff at Mentis is committed to giving the best possible assistance and seeks to meet clients wherever they have need, including at schools, senior living homes and family resource centers county-wide. The dedicated staff members provide bi-lingual services that are tailored to the clients' backgrounds and cultures. Through these efforts, Mentis is able to assist community members that may have